

Description

"THE SEELEVEL". A method and apparatus for monitoring the changing levels of fluid in an enclosed tank. (an intelligent dip stick)

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

- [0001] The see level method of fluid monitoring is comprised of a probe inserted into the top of the tank and an electronic interface box connected to the probe. The electronic interface box provides a direct visual bar-graph read out of the fluid level in the tank and a digital interface for process control if required.
- [0002] There are many ways of measuring the fluid level in a tank, such as "looking into it", using a dip stick, a mechanical float system or an external hydraulic eye glass. The proposed system provides an inexpensive, simple solution with no moving parts and does not require access to the bottom of the tank, as in many cases, the tank is

below ground or the problem of possible leaking has to be addressed.

[0003] The proposed system works on the principle of the fluid progressively making electrical contact with conducting surfaces mounted at precise increments along the length of the probe. As contact is made at each increment, an electronic solid state switch illuminates each section of the bar-graph indicating the level of fluid in the tank. The digital data from each switch being made available on an external connector. The apparatus was originally designed for monitoring a rain water collection system but it was envisaged to have many applications including but not restricted to, water wells, septic tanks, swimming pools, water treatment and any application requiring depth or level measurement of a fluid with acceptable conductivity qualities.